IRRIGATION TECHNOLOGY 2018



Providing innovative design solutions for irrigation worldwide

Presented by: Brian E. Vinchesi LEED AP, EIT, FASIC CID, CIC, CLIA, CGIA, CLIM

ROLE OF IRRIGATION

In the east irrigation is a means of supplementing rainfall, not replacing it. In other parts of the country such as the southwest it is essential.



IRRIGATION WATER USE

- In the United States, agricultural irrigation is by far the largest user of fresh water, using 79.6% of the total consumed in the country.
 - Industry and power generation use another 8.5%.
- Domestic use 4.3%
- Livestock operations 3.2%
- Golf courses use approximately 1.5%
- Landscape irrigation (except golf courses) consumes 2.9 % of the country's freshwater consumption

THE FACTS

Landscape Irrigation and Watering Competes for Its' Water Supply with:

- Public Health
- Fish
- Wildlife
- Navigation
- Urban Sprawl
- Recreation
- Other Irrigation
- As a Result, Landscapes Need to Use Water as Efficiently as Possible





SOCIETY

Architects and Designers decide how their landscapes are used by Society (Parks, Offices, Campuses, Retail Stores)

Irrigation affects Society by the Level of Landscape Plant Health

- Attractiveness
- Usefulness
- Hazard Prevention
 (Fires)

Simple "Vulnerability Curve"



ENVIRONMENT

- "Green" Projects are conscious of many Site-Specific Environmental Issues:
 - Storm Water
 - Erosion
 - Open Space
 - Heat-Island Effect
 - Intent: Think Globally—Act Locally
- Irrigation Directly Influences Regional Environment by Drawing from Area Water Supplies and Levels Critical to Humans and Wildlife
 - Excessive Potable Use Equals Bad for the Environment



ECONOMY

- An Irrigation System must be Economically Viable NOW and in the FUTURE
- Cannot Simply Select Cheapest System—We Must Consider
 - Future Potable Water Costs
- Future Electricity Costs
- Future Maintenance
 Costs
- RISK of LOSS

Sum of Arrows is "Present Value"



CURRENT PRACTICES

Irrigation Design Process with External Influence



IRRIGATION SYSTEMS OVERVIEW

TURF SPRAYS

Stationary Spray Small Areas П • 5 to 15 feet Landscape and Turf Low Pressure • 30 psi Very High Precipitation Rates • 1.5 to 2.0 inches/hour Being regulated out buy Green Code



LANDSCAPE SPRAYS



MSMT (ROTATORS)

Rotating - Multiple Stream Multiple Trajectory

Small Areas

- 8 to 30 feet
- Landscape and Turf
- Low Pressure
 - 40/45 psi
- Medium Precipitation Rates
 - 0.6 to 0.9 inches/hour



SMALL/MEDIUM ROTORS

Single Rotating Stream Medium Sized Areas 18 to 45 feet

Turf

Medium Pressure

• 35 to 50 psi

Low Precipitation Rates

• 0.2 to 0.45 inches/hour



LARGE ROTORS

 Single Rotating Stream
 Large Sized Areas 45 to 65 feet
 Turf
 High Pressure

 50 to 70 psi

 Medium Precipitation Rates

 0.40 to 0.65 inches/hour



VERY LARGE ROTORS

- Combined Single Rotating Stream
- Large Sized Areas 65 to 90 feet
- D Turf
- High Pressure
 - 65-90 psi
- Medium Precipitation Rates
 - 0.45 to 0.65 inches/hour



EXTREMELY LARGE ROTORS

- Combined Single Rotating Stream
- Large Sized Areas
- Synthetic Turf
- Very High Pressure
 - 60-115+ psi
- □ Flow
 - 114 to 303 gpm
- High Precipitation Rates



BUBBLERS

 Flowing Stream
 Focused Water Application
 Trees and Large Shrubs
 Low Pressure (30 psi)
 0.25 to 2.0 gpm
 High Application Rate
 Drip More Applicable



DRIP IRRIGATION

 Various Emitter and Row Spacings
 Small, Medium and Large Sized Areas
 Plantings (Turf?)
 Medium Pressure

 30 to 70 psi

 Precipitation Rates

 0.5 to 2.0 inches/hour





ELECTRIC VALVES

Turn Zones On/Off
 Electrically Actuated

 24 volt AC

 Hydraulically Operated
 ¾ -3 Inch
 150-220 psi rated
 Brass and Plastic
 May Isolate Before
 Manifold Together



DRIP VALVES

Low Flows

- Special Valves May Be Required
- **Filters**
 - 140 or 200 Mesh
 - Must be Serviceable
- Pressure Regulation
 - 45 psi



CONTROLLERS

Operate Valves

- Conventional 6-48 Zones
- Various FeaturesVarious Costs





TWO-WIRE/DECODER

One-Wire

- Two Cables
- Up to 200 Zones

Smart

• Data vs. Signal

Surge Protection

• At set distance along the two-wire path

Grounding

- At each surge arrestor
 - Rod and plate
 - Plate



RAIN SENSORS

- Interrupt System Operation
- Can Be Set for a Minimum Amount of Rainfall
- Can Be Instantaneous
- Hard Wired or Wireless
- Location is the Key





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SCALE 1"= 10FT.



ALTERNATIVE WATER SOURCES

THE TREND



- Due to many factors, using potable water for irrigation systems is no longer the "acceptable" practice.
- The days of using potable water for irrigation are numbered.

ALTERNATIVE SOURCES

 Why should an alternative irrigation water source be considered?

- Limited Resource
- Sustainability
- Regulation
- LEED
- Water Cost



IRRIGATION SOURCES

Potable:

- Municipal
- Groundwater
- Surface Water
- Alternative:
 - Rainwater
 - Storm Water
 - Treated Effluent (X)
 - Condensate
 - Grey Water (X)

- Processed:
 - Recycled (Reuse)
 - Reverse Osmosis
 - Desalination
 - Reject Water

STORM WATER

Storage Basins Detains the Water Retains the Water Water Quality

- Source
- Filtering
- Undesirables
 - Oil
 - Sand
 - Trash
- Disinfection required in New York if overhead



RAIN WATER COLLECTION



 90% of the roof water is usually collectible
 Need to maximize the collection area
 Need to minimize contaminants.

RAIN WATER COLLECTION

Filtering will be required, possibly at multiple points. One storage location/container or several may be required to maximize collection. Economics and efficiencies are important design criteria in relation to the number of tanks, pumps, etc.

• What if it doesn't rain?

RECYCLED-REUSE SOURCES

PROS

- Cost
- Quantity
- CONS
 - Quality
 - Quantity
 - Regulation



GREY WATER

Allowed

- Clothes Washers
- Bathtub/Shower
- Sinks
- Prohibited
 - Kitchen Sink
 - Dishwasher
 - Toilets
- At least 13 states have grey water policies.
- Most likely will need a permit.



MIXING ALTERNATIVES

- While One Source Alone May Not Be Sustainable for Irrigation, Multiple Sources Could Be
- Mixing Alternatives (within Storage Facility) Can Mitigate Risk of Landscape Loss
- Combining Sources Improves Quantity and Quality (Dilution, Temperature Reduction)

COMPLEXITY



URBAN TREES

 Typically tree irrigation has been done with spray sprinklers or bubblers which use large amounts of water.
 Drip rings have also been used.





URBAN TREES

Newer technologies include drip stakes which do a better job of applying water directly to the root ball at lower application rates.



DRIP STAKES







Water applied directly into the root ball at greater depth



GOING GREEN



 Green and sustainable systems are required to use significantly less potable water or alternative sources of water.

LEED CONSIDERATIONS



 Emphasis is on water efficiency and removal of potable water from irrigation systems.
 LEED describes high efficiency irrigation technologies as micro irrigation, moisture sensors or climatebased controllers.

WHAT AFFECTS LEED IRRIGATION POINTS?



Water Efficiency

- Amount of Turf
- Sprinkler Equipment
 - Pressure Regulation
 - Drip Irrigation
- Controller Type
 - Rain Sensor
 - Climate Based
 - Soil Moisture

Alternative Water Supplied



STANDARDS AND CODES

- Limit runoff by limiting precipitation rate.
- Require use of alternative water sources.
- Water quality is a concern.
- Require recognized competency through certification, etc.
- Limited turf areas
- Metering

Π

Inconsistent from code to code



ANSI/ASHRAE/USGBC/IES Standard 189.1-2011

Standard for the Design of **High-Performance Green Buildings**

ASHRAE) 🚯 🎇 🏬 🎰

Except Low-Rise **Residential Buildings**

OTHER PROGRAMS







THE SUSTAINABLE SITES INITIATIVE





WATER USE

- Based on Area
 - Material
 - Turf
 - Plantings
 - Trees
 - SBSS
- EPA Water Budget Tool
 - July
- Actual Design
 - Sprinklers
 - Zones

WaterSense New Ho This water budget tool shall Please refer to the WaterSer Your Name: Builder Name: Lot Number/Street Address: City, State, Zip Code: Peak Watering Month:	By the specification: Water Budget Tool (V 1.02) be used to determine if the designed landscape meets Criteria 4.1.1 of the specification. Isse Water Budget Approach for additional information. Guy Bou Lahdou July				
Is an irrigation system being installed on this site? Yes This worksheet determines if the designed landscape meets the water budget. If the landscape water requirement is LESS than the landscape water allowance, then the water budget criterion is met. If the landscape water requirement is GREATER than the landscape water allowance, then the landscape and/or irrigation system needs to be redesigned to use less water					
STEP 3A - REVIEW THE LWA AND LWR FROM PART 1 AND PART 2 LWA 19,023 (gallons/month) STEP 3B - REVIEW THE TOTAL AREA OF TURFGRASS* IN THE DESIGNED LANDSCAPE FROM STEP 2B The designed landscape contains 0 square feet of turfgrass.* This is 0% of the landscaped area. *This indudes the are of any pools, spas, and/or water features, designated by WaterSense to be counted as turgrass.					
OUTPUT - DOES THE D YES If YES, then th If NO, then the	e water budget criterion is met. landscape and/or irrigation system needs to be redesigned to use less water.				

IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

SET IT AND FORGET IT

Irrigation Systems are only as Smart as their Managers



TECHNOLOGY

Smart Controllers

• Weather based and soil moisture based.







"SMART" CONTROLLERS

- Eliminates arbitrary zone times (human intervention).
- Installer performs a simple (?) audit by zone of sprinkler type, plant type, soil type, etc.
- Weather or soil moisture based, not time based watering.
 EPA WaterSense
- labeled smart controllers.





SOIL MOISTURE SENSORS

Safety

- Off Switch
- Adjustable Moisture Level
- Monitor and Tracking
 - Keep a Level of Moisture
 - Allow Irrigation at a Set
 Level of Moisture
- With Controller
 Add on to Controller
 Requires Calibration
 Education Lacking



APPS

Internet Based Scheduling
Smart Device
Flow Sensing
Tracks Water Use
Leak Detection
Rain Scheduling
Now 100+
Good Technology

Poor Scheduling



WHAT TALKS TO WHAT?

- The more you want to talk to:
 - The more
 sophisticated the
 system becomes
 - The smarter (logic) the system needs to be
 - The more equipment there is
 - The higher the cost



WHAT TALKS TO WHAT?

Controller to Soil Moisture Sensor(s)

- How Interactive?
 - Control
 - Safety
- Compatibility
 - Manufacturer
 - Signal Protocol
- Communication
 Cable
 - Conventional
 - Two-Wire



MAINTENANCE

The single most critical element to long-term resource conservation



BMP's

Developed in 2014 by the IA and ASIC. Provides an outline on how landscape irrigation systems should be designed, managed and installed.



Landscape Irrigation

Irrigation

Best Management Practices



LEGISLATION

Rain Shutoff

 Incorporate in water conservation guidelines



CERTIFICATION/LICENSING

- Contractor
- Designer
- Auditor
- Demonstrates a level of knowledge



IRRIGATION CONTRACTOR LICENSING IN THE UNITED STATES



NOT JUST IRRIGATION



Saving water in the landscape and being sustainable does not just involve irrigation. Native Plants Soil Type and Depth (6 inches?) Landscape Management

QUESTIONS



<u>bvinchesi@irrigationconsulting.com</u> www.irrigationconsulting.com